

REMARKS

The Applicants have carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action of 12 May 2005.

Submitted with this Office Action are two Terminal Disclaimers. The first references U.S. Patent 6,859,970. The second references copending patent application serial no. 10/433,851. With the filing of these Terminal Disclaimers, the obviousness-type double patenting rejections of claims 1-5 and 11 based upon U.S. Patent 6,859,970 and claims 1-5 and 7-13 based upon application serial no. 10/433,851, are overcome and should be withdrawn.


In addition, the Applicants amend claim 11. Claim 11 now reads on an agitator and drive gear assembly. The body of the claim also now positively recites and references "a drive gear having a stub shaft." Additionally, the body of the claim now recites that the pulley includes a mounting fixture for engaging the stub shaft of the drive gear. No such structure is taught or suggested in U.S. Patent 2,372,404 to Taylor. Since this distinguishing structure is now positively recited in the body of the claim, claim 11 clearly patentably distinguishes over this art and should be allowed.

Claims 12 and 13 are also amended to refer to the agitator and drive gear assembly that is now the subject matter of claim 11. Accordingly, these claims are also now in condition for formal allowance.

In summary, all the pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art and should be formally allowed. Upon careful review and consideration it is believed the Examiner will agree with this proposition. Accordingly, the early issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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